



STATE OF CONNECTICUT

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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PRESS RELEASE

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Connecticut Strawberries Stand Up to Heavy Rains

Hartford, CT/June 26, 2006—Despite the heavy rains this past weekend, farmers around the state report that their strawberry crops are still in peak condition. Excellent picking is expected to continue through the July 4th weekend, and even into mid-July.

This year's crop has been superb, with the plump, sweet, juicy berries in abundance.

"Folks shouldn't let the rain scare them away," said Rick Macsuga of the Connecticut Department of Agriculture. "The picking is at its peak, and we encourage people to take advantage of these delectable berries while we have them - even if it means putting on a rain hat and boots. Many farms stay open during inclement weather because the native strawberry season is short, and the farmers don't want people to miss out."

For a listing of PYO farms in the state, please visit the Department of Agriculture's website at <http://www.ct.gov/doag/cwp/view.asp?a=1368&q=258898> . Please call ahead for availability and hours before heading to the farm.

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